



Valley Climbers Motorcycle Club

Established 1965

Napa, CA



April 4, 2014

Via E- Mail

Mendocino National Forest
U.S.D.A. – Forest Service
825 N. Humbolt Ave.
Willows, CA 95988

Attention: Ms. Sherry Tune
Forest Supervisor

Subject: **USFS Mendocino N.F. 2013/2014 California OHMVR Grants & Cooperative Agreements Program Preliminary Application**

Dear Ms. Tune,

The Valley Climbers Motorcycle Club would like to take this opportunity to extend our complete support of the Mendocino National Forests proposed preliminary OHV grants request for funding in the 2013/2014 application cycle. Specifically, the 2013/2014 Preliminary Applications referenced in this letter are designated as: #G13-02-10-S01, #G13-02-10-G04 & #G13-02-10-R01.

As avid users of the available OHV opportunities in the Forest, the Valley Climbers Motorcycle Club has been very satisfied with the management practices of the Mendocino National Forest in the previous years and we are looking forward to continued cooperation and expanding trail inventories in the future.

The Mendocino National Forest has consistently provided a superior level of cooperation and sound resource management practices which benefit the OHV community. It should be noted that the Forest's hard work in the post-2012 Mill Fire recovery and OHV re-opening effort in the Grindstone District has been invaluable. It is our opinion that the grant funding requests made by the Mendocino National Forest should be approved in full and that the funds will be well spent maintaining existing routes and facilities, developing new opportunities and protecting environmental resources within two of California's best OHV opportunity areas, the Grindstone and Upper Lake Districts.

Specifically, Valley Climbers MC supports the Mendocino National Forests preliminary grant requests in the following areas of concern :

- **S01 Education & Safety** – to provide basic safety and educational opportunities for safe and responsible OHV use . We have reviewed the Project Descriptions & Cost Estimate for the deliverables for this segment of the Application, and concur with the requested levels of funding to maintain proper levels of OHV user education, regulatory knowledge and environmental awareness to ensure the long term success of OHV recreation within the Forest.
- **G04 Ground Operations** – Valley Climbers MC strongly supports the requested Grant Funding for this most essential segment of the Preliminary Grant Application. We cannot stress strongly enough the need to continue basic operation & maintenance on the existing trail systems and facilities. This segment of the Preliminary Grant Application is in addition to the use of volunteer organizations to assist with this vital activity, and we commend the Forest for embracing the concept of partnering with available user groups who stand ready to help protect and maintain the available OHV routes.

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- **R01 Trail 1 Restoration** - While most user groups have been traditionally suspect of the activities surrounding restoration projects applied for by other Grant Applicants, we have found that the Mendocino Forest has used good judgment in selecting projects which are indeed necessary, and will actually result in proper restoration of areas of environmental concern. The Trail 1 Restoration project listed in the Mendocino's 2013-2014 Preliminary Grant Application is located in a known problem area of erosion concern. Restoration of this route segment will enhance environmental quality within the Forest and will prevent potential future sediment transfer into the Little Stony Creek watercourse.

In closing, the Valley Climbers Motorcycle Club hopes the California State Parks OHMVR Division and OHMVR Commission scores the Mendocino National Forest's 2013/2014 Preliminary Grant Application favorably and that full funding can be achieved.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Very truly yours,

VALLEY CLIMBERS MOTORCYCLE CLUB



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cc: CA OHVMR – ohvinfo@parks.ca.gov